

As great as he was during his prime, his humility always shown through. He liked to downplay his skills by saying that "all there is to bull-riding is to put one leg on each side of the bull and make an ugly face for 8 seconds."

Mr. Shoulders burst into the rodeo world in the 1940s, at the age of 14. While working the wheat harvest, he decided to take a break to watch a minor league rodeo nearby. He resolved to try it for himself and won the event as well as \$18. Between that \$18 start in the minor league rodeo and his elections to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, and the Pro-Rodeo Hall of Fame, he won an unprecedented 16 world championships. He is also the only professional cowboy to be honored in the Madison Square Garden Hall of Fame.

But the tough old cowboy was not only known for his exploits in the rodeo, he was also loved for his candid sense of humor, humbleness, loyalty, and toughness, everything Oklahomans are proud to be known for.

I stand today to honor and celebrate the life of Jim Shoulders, a great cowboy, a great Oklahoman, and a great man.

REPUBLICANS WILL CONTINUE TO OPPOSE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S EXCESSIVE SPENDING

(Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the American public asked Congress to change their spending habits and to be more responsible with the people's money. Last fall, the majority party promised Americans greater fiscal responsibility and more spending restraint. I believe Congress needs to deliver a responsible Federal budget worthy of approval of the American public.

Unfortunately, the majority has only introduced legislation that has promised the largest tax increase in history, runaway entitlement spending, and an out-of-control appropriations process.

If Congress as a whole does not pledge to change, the American public will continue to be let down by the actions of the majority party.

The Republicans are not going to let them down, Mr. Speaker. I understand the immediate need for spending restraint and the Republicans will continue to oppose excessive spending by the majority party. Therefore, I will vote against H.R. 2643, the Interior and Environment appropriations bill, later today.

A SERIOUS COURSE CORRECTION NEEDED FOR IRAQ

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, Senator LUGAR, the former chairman and current ranking Repub-

lican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, went to the Senate floor and said that the President's troop escalation is not working. Then yesterday Republican Senator VOINOVICH said the U.S. should begin pulling troops out of Iraq so that people know we are indeed disengaging. But the President and his spokesman said, no, we need more troops and more time.

It has been clear for at least a year that a serious course correction is needed in Iraq. But, unfortunately, Republicans in this House of Representatives continue to rubber stamp the Bush administration's war policies. Democrats are changing the course of this misguided war, but with a stubborn President unwilling to face reality, congressional Republicans must break ranks with the President to do what is best for our Nation and for Iraq.

It is my hope that the congressional Republicans will seriously listen to their colleagues' comments and conclude, as Democrats already have, that we need to dramatically change our policy in Iraq.

RECOGNIZING FLOYD OLESEN OF ELK RIVER, MINNESOTA

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, there are so many great Americans in this country, especially unsung heroes and Americans who rise up to be a part of the solution of the greatness of this country. In Minnesota, we have so many people like that, and it is such an honor, Mr. Speaker, to be able to talk about one unsung hero. He is a wonderful man from the center part of the Sixth District of Minnesota. His name is Mr. Floyd Olesen, from an unassuming town named Elk River, Minnesota.

Floyd and his wife, Dilly, have done so much for the people of our Nation and for the people of our State. They started a program called "Operation Minnesota Nice," Mr. Speaker, where they send care packages to area troops from Minnesota who are currently serving both in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

Recently Floyd stepped down from that position so that he and Dilly could focus on a few other service-related activities. One is "Operation Help Support Our Troops & Families." Another is "Operation Military Kids." This provides educational opportunities for the children of active service personnel.

Recently Mr. Olesen received the American Legion 6th District Service Officer of the Year award. He is a wonderful American.

And, Mr. Speaker, it is so important that we encourage all Americans to do what they can, where they can, when they can, while they can to serve their fellow man. Mr. Olesen has done that and more.

Thank you, Floyd Olesen and Dilly, for what you do for American servicemen and women.

VICE PRESIDENT CHENEY

(Mr. ARCURI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concern about a dangerous precedent and irresponsible wrongdoing in this administration.

Recent media reports have revealed that the Office of the Vice President exempted itself from a presidential Executive Order created to protect national security information. Since 2003, the Vice President's office has refused to properly report whether they possess certain classified information and went so far as to block inspection of their office to find out. The Vice President justified the step by saying that his office was not part of the executive branch of government.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that the rest of the executive branch complied with the order and properly reported their handling of critical classified information.

Mr. Speaker, I raise two serious objections to this practice. First, mishandling of classified data poses a grave and serious risk to our country and one should not take that lightly. And, second, as a former district attorney, I believe that no one is above the law. Rule of law must apply to everyone equally. How do we expect to enforce the law in localities when it is broken and held in ill regard at the highest levels of government? We must hold this administration, like all other Americans, accountable for their actions.

ANOTHER ENERGY BILL THAT DOESN'T PRODUCE AN OUNCE OF ENERGY

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have been watching as we are pulling together this year's energy bill for the House; who is doing the cobbling; what they are including in the package, or, curiously, what they are leaving out.

This is the current House leadership's second attempt this session to produce an energy bill that would address our energy dependence on unstable parts of the world, our strategic vulnerabilities that arise from that dependence, and the disastrous effects that high energy prices have on our ability to retain and produce American jobs.

You would think that the Energy Committee would be a pretty good place to start on this. But last week, provisions in our committee's bill promoting additional energy production,